OCT 08 2004
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

AP/ IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln No.:	10/678,231	**Confirmation No. 1571**
Filed:	October 6, 2003	
Applicant(s):	Lam, et al.	
Title:	Artificial Eye for Doll or the Like	
Art Unit:	3712	
Examiner:	A. Abdelwahed	
Attorney Docket No.:	7537/80638	
Customer No.:	22242	

APPEAL BRIEF TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street South
Customer Window, MS Appeal Brief - Patents
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Applicant(s) hereby submit(s) to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences the following:

☐ A Notice of Appeal From The Primary Examiner To The Board Of Patent Appeals And Interferences is enclosed which includes the fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(b) for filing the Notice of Appeal.

☒ An Appeal Brief with Appendix attached (in triplicate) is enclosed.

☐ Also enclosed:

☐ The fee for filing the Appeal Brief is $ 340.00 (37 CFR § 1.17(c)).

☒ Applicant(s) assert entitlement to Small Entity Status (37 CFR § 1.27), reducing the Appeal Fee by half to $ 170.00 .

☒ Charge $ 170.00 to Deposit Account No. 06-1135 under Order No. .7537/80638

☐ A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.

Application No. 10/678,231

☐ Not required (fee paid in prior appeal in this application).

☐ A petition for extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with this appeal (specifically including the fee for filing a brief in support of this appeal if such brief is filed unaccompanied by full payment therefor, and the fee for filing a request for an oral hearing if such request is made unaccompanied by full payment therefor), or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1135. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1135. This Notice is filed in duplicate.

October 8, 2004
Date

G. Paul Edgell
Registration No. 24,238

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY
120 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1600
Chicago, Illinois 60603-3406
Telephone: (312) 577-7000
Facsimile: (312) 577-7007

OIPE JC68
OCT 08 2004
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Lam, *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/678,231

Filed: October 6, 2003

For: **Artificial Eye for Doll or the Like**

Art Unit: 3712

Examiner: A. Abdelwahed

Atty. Dkt.: 7537/80638

Appeal Brief

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window, **MS Appeal Brief - Patents**
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

This is an appeal from the final rejection of July 21, 2004.

I. Real Party in Interest

The application involved in this appeal is not assigned. The real parties in interest are applicants/appellants Frederika D. Lam and Michael R. Lam.

II. Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no other appeals, interferences or other proceedings related to the present appeal.

III. Status of Claims

The application on appeal contains 58 claims, of which claims 1-18, 20, 21, 23-28, 30, 31 and 33-58 were finally rejected in an Office Action dated July 21, 2004. In the final rejection, claims 19, 22, 29 and 32 were objected to as depending from rejected claims.

10/12/2004 SZEWDIE1 00000006 061135 10678231
01 FC:2402 170.00 DA

This is an appeal from the final rejection of claims 1-18, 20, 21, 23-28, 30, 31 and 33-58, all of the rejected claims. A copy of the claims on appeal is attached as Appendix A.

IV. Status of Amendments

An Amendment After Final Rejection Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 was filed on September 1, 2004 and was refused entry in an Advisory Action dated September 29, 2004.

V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The invention defined in the claims on appeal is an artificial eye and method of fabricating such an eye. The artificial eye of the invention can mimic the appearance of a natural eye and has particular utility as an eye for dolls and other toys. Page 2, lines 3-5.

As recited in independent claims 1, 9, 20, 27, 30, 43 and 51, the artificial eye of the invention, in its most basic form, comprises a base 110, a lens 120 attached to the base, and a lamina 210 interposed between the lens and the base. Figs. 1, 2; page 4, line 14 - page 6, line 19. In appearance, the base corresponds generally to the sclera of a natural eye, the lens to the lens and cornea of a natural eye, and the lamina to the iris and pupil of a natural eye. *Id.*

The distinguishing feature of the artificial eye of the invention is the material from which the lens is formed. Such material can be a natural gemstone or gemstone-like material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon and ruby, or a synthetic gemstone-like material selected from the group consisting of synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, cubic zirconium, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate and gadolinium gallium garnet. Page 5, lines 4-9. These natural and synthetic materials possess qualities that are particularly desirable in artificial eyes, including clarity, hardness (resistance to scratching and breaking), and sparkle, and, in these respects, are much superior to the glass lenses commonly used in artificial eyes. Page 5, lines 11-19.

Appealed claims 23-26 and 33-36 recite "base means," "lens means" and "lamina means" instead of a "base," a "lens" and a "lamina," respectively. Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 6, these

"means" elements are limited to the corresponding structures described in the specification and equivalents. As described in the specification, the "base means" may have a hemispherical, spherical or other shape and may be formed of injection-molded ABS plastic, glass, glass-substitutes or other plastics. Page 4, lines 17-26. The preferred embodiment of the "lens means" has a generally hemispherical shape and is formed from the natural and synthetic materials specified above. Page 4, line 28 - page 5, line 9. The "lamina means" may comprise a thin ceramic disc, colored glass frits, or a photograph or drawing on paper, plastic, cardboard or metal. Page 6, lines 4-14.

Claims 37-42 claim a doll having an eye comprising a lens coupled to a sclera, wherein the lens comprises one of the natural or synthetic materials specified above.

VI. Grounds of Rejection

Claims 1-18, 20, 21, 23-28, 30, 31 and 33-58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Nasca U.S. Patent No. 4,601,673 ("Nasca") in view of Deeg et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,079,470 ("Deeg"). Nasca discloses an artificial eye that includes the combination of a base ("sclera 12"), a lens ("cornea 24") attached to the base, and a lamina ("iris 22") interposed between the lens and base. Appellants concede that this basic artificial eye structure has long been known. However, the lens of Nasca's artificial eye, i.e., cornea 24, is formed from an unspecified transparent material. Col. 2, lines 11-16. Nasca contains no express or implicit teaching of forming the lens from one of the natural or synthetic materials specified in the appealed claims.

To remedy the above deficiency of Nasca in respect to the lens material, the final rejection relies on Deeg. Deeg discloses a replacement lens for a *natural* eye. This lens may be formed from natural and synthetic crystalline materials, including some of the lens materials specified in the appealed claims – diamond, sapphire, zircon, ruby and strontium titanate. Table bridging cols. 2 and 3. Thus, the issue is whether it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of artificial eyes to substitute the lens materials of Deeg, as used in natural eyes, for the unspecified lens material of Nasca in Nasca's artificial eye?

Similarly, claims 1-4, 9-12, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23-25, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33-35, 37-46 and 51-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Smith U.S. Patent No. 3,480,971 ("Smith") in view of Deeg. Smith, similar to Nasca, discloses an artificial eye that includes an "iris portion 2" comprising a base 25, a transparent plastic coating 26 attached to the base, and a photographic positive 24 interposed between the plastic coating and the base. In this structure, the plastic coating corresponds to the claimed lens and the photographic positive to the claimed lamina. Also like Nasca, Smith contains no express or implicit teaching of forming the lens from one of the natural or synthetic materials specified in the appealed claims.

Like the rejection based on Nasca, to remedy the deficiency of Smith in respect to the lens material, the final rejection relies on Deeg, and the issue again is whether it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of artificial eyes to substitute the lens materials of Deeg, as used in natural eyes, for the plastic lens material of Smith in Smith's artificial eye?

VII. Argument

As indicated above, the issues presented by this appeal are whether, under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the teaching of the secondary reference, Deeg, relating to natural eyes, is properly combinable with the teachings of the primary references, Nasca and Smith, relating to artificial eyes.

It is well settled that when a combination of references is relied upon to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness there must be a suggestion or motivation, either in the references or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to combine the reference teachings, and that suggestion or motivation must be found in the prior art, not in an applicant's disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 495, 20 U.S.P.Q.2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991) ("the prior art . . . offers no suggestion, explicit or implicit, of the substitution that is the difference between the claimed invention and the prior art.")

The analysis for determining whether, in a particular situation, there is a proper suggestion or motivation to combine references is discussed in detail at MPEP §2143.01. "There

are three possible sources for a motivation to combine references: the nature of the problem to be solved, the teachings of the prior art, and the knowledge of persons of ordinary skill in the art." *In re Rouffet*, 149 F.3d 1350, 1357, 47 U.S.P.Q.2d 1453, 1457-58 (Fed. Cir. 1998) (The combination of references taught every element of the claimed invention, however, without a motivation to combine, a rejection based on a *prima facie* case of obviousness was held improper.)

Obviousness can be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention only where there is some suggestion or motivation to do so found either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. "The test for an implicit showing is what the combined teachings, knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art, and the nature of the problem to be solved as a whole would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art." *In re Kotzab*, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 U.S.P.Q.2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000).

As reflected in the prosecution before the Examiner, there appears to be no disagreement here as to the applicable law. In the final rejection, the Examiner acknowledged "that references cannot be arbitrarily combined and that there must be some reason why one skilled in the art would be motivated to make the proposed combination of primary and secondary references." Final Rejection, page 4 (citation omitted). Appellants' disagreement with the Examiner is in the application of that law to the facts of this case.

A. The Rejection Based on the Combination of Nasca and Deeg Is Improper.

Appellants initially note the most obvious difference between Nasca and Deeg; the former relates to artificial eyes and the latter to natural eyes. In fact, the only common aspect of these two teachings is that both relate to structures, albeit very different structures, known as "eyes." No extended discussion is necessary to demonstrate that artificial and natural eyes are totally different in their structure, function and materials of composition.

Focusing on the specific differences between Nasca and Deeg that are relevant to the final rejection, the lenses taught by Nasca and Deeg are entirely different structures, are used for entirely different purposes, and are made of entirely different materials. Their only common function is that both are transparent, permitting light to pass through them.

In Nasca's artificial eye, cornea 24 is a transparent cover that protects decorative iris 22 while allowing the iris to be seen through the cornea. The cornea has a hemispherical shape and must be large enough to cover the entire iris. In these respects, the structure and function of Nasca's cornea are similar to those of the claimed lens. The difference between the two is the improved clarity, hardness (durability) and sparkle of the lens of the present invention, improvements attributable to the material from which the claimed lens is formed.

With respect to Deeg's replacement lens 10 for a natural eye, the purpose of the lens is for "the correction of aphakia [absence of natural eye lens] and re-establishment of binocularity [stereoscopic vision] in aphakia." Col. 1, lines 6-10; col. 2, lines 9-16. Thus, the function of this lens is to focus images on the retina of a natural eye. As shown in Fig. 1, the lens is relatively small, intended to be mounted in the iris of a natural eye, and has no effect on the external appearance of an eye in which it is mounted. Clearly, the structure and function of Deeg's lens for a natural eye are entirely dissimilar to those of Nasca's lens for an artificial eye.

In addition to the structural and functional differences between lenses for artificial and natural eyes, the criteria deemed important for selecting the materials used for each of these lens types are unrelated.

The primary reference, Nasca, discloses an artificial eye having a lens made from an unspecified, transparent material. Clearly this teaching provides no motivation to employ any particular material for the lens.

The criteria deemed important by the secondary reference, Deeg, in selecting particular materials for a replacement lens for a natural eye are:

> An ongoing need and search in the art for a desirable way to reduce the net weight of implantable lenses [for natural eyes] while maintaining maximum chemical stability and biological inertness. . . .

Col. 1, lines 28-31.

> According to the invention, interocular implant lenses are formed of chemically stable and biologically inert natural or synthetic crystals having suitable refractive indices and relatively low density.

Col. 1, lines 37-40.

> The present invention is directed to the lens per se, i.e., a lens material which is unique in the art both in its nature and characteristics of chemical stability with relatively low density.

Col. 2, lines 41-45.

> The invention is accomplished by forming lens 10 of a natural or synthetic crystal having a refractive index, density, and weight in air and in water which will afford a recipient the *best possible duplication of function provided by healthy human crystalline lenses*.

Col. 2, lines 46-50 (emphasis added).

In the table bridging columns 2 and 3, Deeg specifies particular lens materials, and identifies for each material the following properties:

- n_o - refractive index for ordinary ray
- n_e - refractive index for extraordinary ray
- p - density
- a - coefficient of thermal expansion
- w_a - weight in air
- w_i - weight in water

Significantly, with respect to glass lenses for natural eyes, Deeg notes that:

> Although glasses have many advantages as ocular implants . . . they are, in most cases, of a density rendering finished lenses relatively high in weight and less than optimum in this respect as implants.

Col. 1, lines 23-27. This statement emphasizes that the characteristic that was primarily sought by Deeg in a replacement lens for natural eyes, which would be an improvement over known glass lenses, was weight reduction.

The foregoing quotations from the Deeg patent specification demonstrate that the qualities Deeg deemed important for replacement lenses for natural eyes were:

> weight (and density),
> chemical stability,
> biological inertness, and
> suitable refractive index.

As described in the specification of the present application, the physical qualities that are important for lenses for artificial eyes are:

> clarity,
> hardness, and
> sparkle.

Page 5, lines 11-19. Thus, the qualities deemed significant by Deeg of weight, chemical stability and biological inertness have no impact or bearing on the suitability of a material for the lens of an artificial eye. As to refractive index as it may be related to clarity and sparkle, as indicated, Deeg did not consider a refractive index higher than that of glass to be an important factor. Furthermore, Deeg did not consider the hardness of the lens material to be important because natural eyes are not subject to the rough handling commonly experienced by the eyes of dolls, stuffed animals and other toys.

From the foregoing, it is clear that one of ordinary skill in the art of artificial eyes, having before them the Nasca and Deeg references, finds no teaching, suggestion or motivation in either reference to use the materials specified in Deeg for forming lenses for the artificial eye of Nasca.

The final rejection makes no distinction between lenses for artificial and natural eyes.

> [T]he Deeg et al. reference was combined with the Nasca and Smith references merely to teach the concept of having a lens for an eye being made of the materials stated in the rejections made above.

Final Rejection, page 4.[1] As pointed out above, the structure, function and important criteria for lenses and lens materials for artificial eyes on the one hand and natural eyes on the other are totally different.

The rejection further states that "Deeg *et al.* teaches an *artificial* eye comprising the aforementioned limitations [of a lens made from the claimed natural and synthetic materials]." (emphasis added). Clearly, Deeg does not teach or suggest an artificial eye. Deeg teaches a replacement lens for a natural eye and, as demonstrated above, the factors that determine the suitability of lenses for artificial and natural eyes are entirely unrelated.

As demonstrated, there is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation in Nasca or Deeg that the materials disclosed in Deeg for use in replacement lenses for natural eyes would be appropriate for use in lenses for Nasca's artificial eye. That teaching comes only from Appellants' disclosure. The rejection based on the combination of Nasca and Deeg should be reversed.

B. The Rejection Based on the Combination of Smith and Deeg Is Improper.

All of the arguments made above concerning the propriety of combining Nasca and Deeg apply equally to the combination of Smith and Deeg. Smith, similar to Nasca, discloses an artificial eye having a lens-like plastic coating 26 that covers and protects an iris-like photographic positive 24. And like the combination of Nasca and Deeg, due to differences between the structure, function and materials of the Smith and Deeg lenses, there is no teaching, suggestion or motivation to combine the references. The rejection based on the combination of Smith and Deeg also should be reversed.

---

[1] The Examiner makes no argument that any motivation to combine Nasca and Deeg is based on the general knowledge available to one of ordinary skill in the art.

VIII. Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, the rejections of the appealed claims are improper and should be reversed.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By G. Paul Edgell
G. Paul Edgell
Reg. No. 24,238
Attorney for Appellants

Date: October 8, 2004
1801 K Street, N.W., Suite 401L
Washington, DC 20006-1201
Phone: (202) 419-7013

Appendix A
Claims on Appeal

1. An artificial eye comprising:
a base; and
a lens-lamina structure, attached to said base, comprising:
a lens having a substantially flat backside, said lens comprising a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby; and
a lamina attached to said backside of said lens.

2. The artificial eye of claim 1 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

3. The artificial eye of claim 2 wherein said base has a depression in its surface and said lens is receptively received in said depression.

4. The artificial eye of claim 3 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

5. The artificial eye of claim 1 further comprising:
an insert layer between said lens and said lamina.

6. The artificial eye of claim 5 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

7. The artificial eye of claim 6 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

8. The artificial eye of claim 7 wherein said insert layer is made of glass.

9. An artificial eye comprising:
a base; and

a lens-lamina structure, attached to said base, comprising:

a lens having a substantially flat backside, said lens comprising a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet; and

a lamina attached to said backside of said lens.

10. The artificial eye of claim 9 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

11. The artificial eye of claim 10 wherein said base has a depression in its surface and said lens is receptively received in said depression.

12. The artificial eye of claim 11 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

13. The artificial eye of claim 9 further comprising:
an insert layer between said lens and said lamina.

14. The artificial eye of claim 13 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

15. The artificial eye of claim 14 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photograph; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

16. The artificial eye of claim 15 wherein said insert layer is made of glass.

17. A method of fabricating an artificial eye comprising:
attaching a lamina to a lens formed from a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby to form a lens-lamina structure; and

attaching said lens-lamina structure to a base.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to a lens comprises:
imprinting a layer of material with an image of an iris and a pupil to form a lamina; and
affixing, by means of an adhesive, said lamina to a lens.

20. A method of fabricating an artificial eye comprising:
attaching a lamina to an insert layer;
attaching said insert layer to a lens formed from a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby; and
attaching said lens to a base.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to an insert layer comprises:
imprinting a sheet of material with an image of an iris and a pupil to form a lamina, and
attaching, by means of an adhesive, said lamina to an insert layer.

23. An artificial eye comprising:
base means for holding a lens means and for appearing white;
lens means coupled to said base means for visually transmitting visible light, said lens means comprising:
a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby; and
lamina means coupled between said lens means and said base means for creating a visual image of part of an eye.

24. The artificial eye of claim 23 wherein the lens means magnifies an image formed from visible light which is transmitted through said lens means.

25. The artificial eye of claim 24 wherein said part of an eye comprises an iris and a pupil or a fanciful image.

26. The artificial eye of claim 25 further comprising:

insert means coupled between said lens means and said lamina means for transmitting visual light and spacing the lamina means from the lens means.

27. A method of fabricating an artificial eye comprising:

attaching a lamina to a lens formed from a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet to form a lens-lamina structure; and

attaching said lens-lamina structure to a base.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to a lens comprises:

imprinting a layer of material with an image of an iris and a pupil to form a lamina; and

affixing, by means of an adhesive, said lamina to a lens.

30. A method of fabricating an artificial eye comprising:

attaching a lamina to an insert layer;

attaching said insert layer to a lens formed from a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet; and

attaching said lens to a base.

31. The method of claim 30 wherein the step of attaching a lamina to an insert layer comprises:

imprinting a sheet of material with an image of an iris and a pupil to form a lamina; and

attaching, by means of an adhesive, said lamina to an insert layer.

33. An artificial eye comprising:
base means for holding a lens means and for appearing white;
lens means coupled to said base means for visually transmitting visible light, said lens means comprising:
a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet; and
lamina means coupled between said lens means and said base means for creating a visual image of part of an eye.

34. The artificial eye of claim 33 wherein the lens means magnifies an image formed from visible light which is transmitted through said lens means.

35. The artificial eye of claim 34 wherein said part of an eye comprises an iris and a pupil or a fanciful image.

36. The artificial eye of claim 35 further comprising:
insert means coupled between said lens means and said lamina means for transmitting visual light and spacing the lamina means from the lens means.

37. An improved doll having at least one eye comprising a lens coupled to a sclera wherein the improvement comprises:
the lens comprising a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet.

38. The improved doll of claim 37, said improvement further comprising:
a lamina attached to said lens, said lamina being characterized by one of the group consisting of colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

39. The improved doll of claim 37, said improvement further comprising:
an insert attached between said lens and said sclera.

40. An improved doll having at least one eye comprising a lens coupled to a sclera wherein the improvement comprises:
the lens comprising a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby.

41. The improved doll of claim 40, said improvement further comprising:
a lamina attached to said lens, said lamina being characterized by one of the g roup consisting of colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

42. The improved doll of claim 40, said improvement further comprising:
an insert attached between said lens and said sclera.

43. An artificial eye comprising:
a base;
a lens formed from a natural material selected from the group consisting of diamond, sapphire, topaz, beryl, quartz, zircon, and ruby, said lens being attached to said base and having a backside oriented towards said base; and
a lamina interposed between said base and said backside of said lens.

44. The artificial eye of claim 43 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

45. The artificial eye of claim 44 wherein said base has a depression in its surface and said lens is receptively received in said depression.

46. The artificial eye of claim 45 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

47. The artificial eye of claim 43 further comprising:
an insert layer between said lens and said lamina.

48. The artificial eye of claim 47 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

49. The artificial eye of claim 48 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet

50. The artificial eye of claim 49 wherein said insert layer is made of glass.

51. An artificial eye comprising:
a base;
a lens formed from a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of cubic zirconium, synthetic rutile, synthetic sapphire, synthetic spinel, strontium titanate, yttrium aluminate, and gadolinium gallium garnet, said lens being attached to said base and having a backside oriented towards said base; and
a lamina interposed between said base and said backside of said lens.

52. The artificial eye of claim 51 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

53. The artificial eye of claim 52 wherein said base has a depression in its surface and said lens is receptively received in said depression.

54. The artificial eye of claim 53 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photographic image; and an image imprinted flat sheet

55. The artificial eye of claim 51 further comprising:
an insert layer between said lens and said lamina.

56. The artificial eye of claim 55 wherein said base is formed from a plastic.

57. The artificial eye of claim 56 wherein said lamina is formed from one selected from the group consisting of: colored ceramic material; one or more colored glass frits; a photograph; and an image imprinted flat sheet.

58. The artificial eye of claim 57 wherein said insert layer is made of glass.